



The faces of students chatting between classes reflect Enrollment Services statistics that Gallaudet's student body is becoming increasingly diverse.

Pilot program in statistics helps ease anxieties in doctoral students

If Gallaudet's first-year doctoral students in education appear less stressed-out this year than their predecessors, it's because they have help tackling "Principles of Statistics"—the course that generally plagues beginning doctoral students—through a pilot program being tested at the University that seems to make the course less formidable.

"Statistics is scary," said Chic Welsh-Charrier, an MSSD English instructor who is on sabbatical this semester to pursue doctoral studies in education, "and having only the book is intimidating, especially for a person who's not math oriented."

Welsh-Charrier and 14 other doctoral students taking the introductory statistics course at Gallaudet are among the first students to test a new computer program called ConStatS: Curricular Software for Conceptualizing Statistics, which allows students to skip the grueling mathematics of statistical calculations and go directly to the result and the concept it demonstrates.

ConStatS was developed at Tufts University's Curricular Software Studio. It is being tested this year at five universities across the nation through a grant from the Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education, U.S. Department of Education. In addition to Gallaudet, ConStatS also is being tested at Tufts University, the University of New Hampshire, the University of Massachusetts at Boston, and Northeastern University.

Gallaudet was chosen for the study chiefly because Dr. Cynthia King, chair and associate professor in the Department of Educational Foundations and Research and who teaches

introductory statistics, saw ConStatS at a conference last year and expressed interest in using it here.

"We're heading for a big change in how we teach statistics," said King, "and this is the beginning of it."

"Statistics is particularly hard for deaf people because they can't watch the instructor writing the equation on the blackboard and the interpreter at the same time," said King. Because of this, deaf doctoral candidates enrolled at other area schools often take statistics at Gallaudet where they need only watch the instructor, she said.

With ConStatS, the computer does the grueling and repetitive mathematic calculations needed for statistical analysis. By eliminating this very time-consuming work, the program enables students to see the concepts behind the calculations directly. It also allows students to create their own experiments to show the relationships between different statistical concepts.

King's students are working through seven labs using the ConStatS software this semester, with each lab augmenting the concepts taught in class. "One thing that has been really exciting is that students want to go back and do the lab a second time," she said.

King also said her students are asking questions that show they understand the concepts. With an introductory statistics course such as this one, she said, teachers often tell students, "Accept this and memorize it. But this program lets us prove why that concept is true," she said. "[The students'] results show them that the rule I taught them is right because they have the data to follow that rule."

Enrollment shows modest rise, some areas increase significantly

Final student enrollment figures at Gallaudet for the 1992-93 academic year show a 1 percent increase over the preceding year. The statistics are more impressive in the category that counts new freshmen, transfer, and preparatory students, where enrollment is up 41 percent from 1991-92, with a record number of entering students (69 percent) successfully completing the English Placement Test.

In addition, enrollment of new graduate students is up 9 percent, with 41 percent of these being deaf or hard of hearing, a 3 percent increase.

Such gains, however, are offset by fewer students taking nondegree sign language courses and students who drop out or are dismissed.

These figures, released in a recent report by the Office of Enrollment Services, make Gallaudet unique among United States colleges and universities. These schools, like Gallaudet, are seeing a decline in the high school student population from which they draw new students, a trend President I. King Jordan spoke of during his talk with the University community Sept. 30. Dr. Jordan commended the Office of Enrollment Services for doing "a really remarkable job" of recruiting students.

Gallaudet's total university enrollment stands at 2,286 students, which is above the projected goal of 2,265 set by Jordan last year. Final figures from the Office of Enrollment Services list 1,506 undergraduate students, 420 graduate students, 228 preparatory students, 23 associate of applied science students, and 28 English Language Institute students. Seventy nine students are enrolled in non-degree credit sign language classes.

"Certainly, I am pleased with the

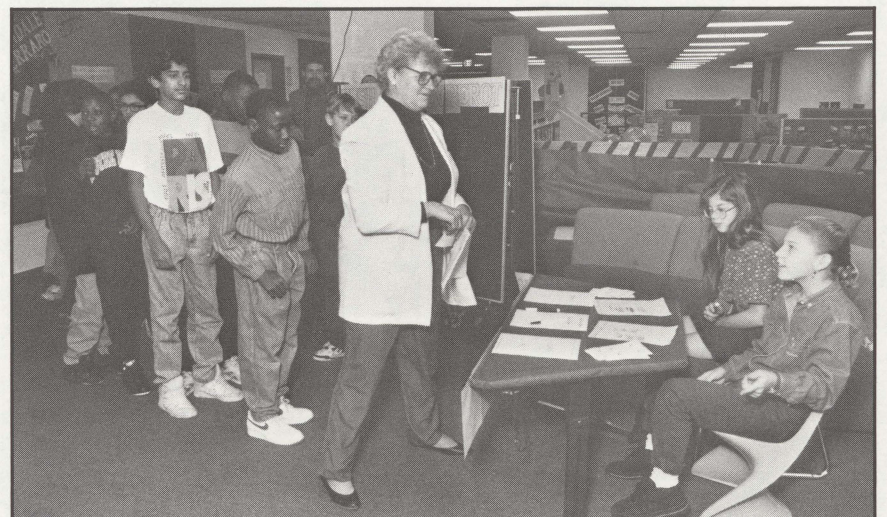
marked increase and the quality of new enrollments," said Astrid Goodstein, executive director of Enrollment Services. "I am just as pleased about the new directions at Gallaudet. I feel the University is becoming more responsive to the special needs and demands of a more diverse student body in terms of race, culture, gender, age, communication skills, and school and career backgrounds."

For example, the English Department now offers a special section of the English Language Program for adult learners only, said Goodstein.

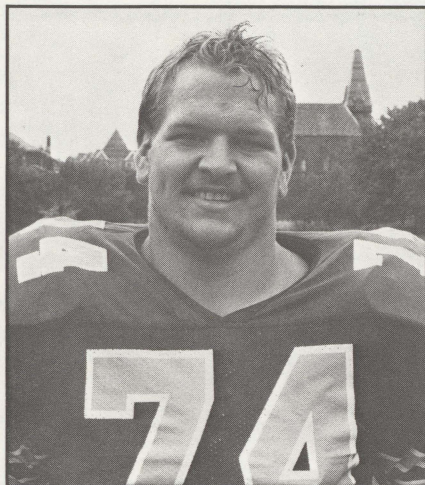
In fact, non-traditional age students represent one of the fastest growing groups of Gallaudet's student population. The number of students who are age 25 or older has increased significantly for several years, totalling 479—or 27 percent of the student body this year. While the age of the average Gallaudet student remains at 23, the average age of entering students has risen from 19 to 21 over the past few years.

The number of students returning to Gallaudet after an absence of a semester or longer increased by 26 to 156 this fall compared with 130 a year ago. Students who are members of minority groups represent 12 percent of the total student population—17 percent of the entering undergraduate class—the same figures as last year. Nine percent of entering graduate students represent minority groups.

The University's total enrollment of international students remains at 15 percent, but international students make up 18 percent of new undergraduates. Under the recently revised Education of the Deaf Act, future international student enrollment will be limited to approximately 10 percent of the total student body.



KDES Principal Nancy Shook casts her ballot at a mock election at the school conducted by Sharon Wood's social studies class, with help from a Methods of Teaching Elementary Social Studies class at the University. Bill Clinton won by a landslide.



Jeff Kurz

First deaf person is Scholar-Athlete

Gallaudet senior Jeff Kurz, an honors student and tri-captain of this year's Bison football team, has been named one of 15 Scholar-Athletes for 1992 by the National Football Foundation. He is the first deaf person to receive the award, which brings recipients \$18,000 fellowships for two years of graduate study.

Academically, Kurz has maintained a 3.59 cumulative grade point average at Gallaudet while working on a double major in mathematics and computer science. In athletics, he has been a member of the Bison squad for four years, playing offensive tackle, defensive nose guard, and tackle. He competed on the wrestling team for two years, and he has played intramural floor hockey, basketball, and softball.

The National Football Foundation cited Kurz for his accomplishments in the classroom, on the playing field, and in the community.

Those achievements include serving as a Student Congress representative, secretary and president of Delta Sigma Phi Fraternity, fundraising chair for the Class of '93, a member of the varsity lettermen's organization and the Honors Student Organization, and tutoring students in math.

The Scholar-Athletes will receive their awards at the foundation's 35th Annual Awards Dinner Dec. 8 in New York City.



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Four candidates named in Nov. 17 SAC election

Four staff members have been named as nominees for the four positions open at the University level on the Staff Advisory Committee (SAC). No nominees were named for the one SAC position open for a Northwest Campus representative. All positions are for two years.

The election will be held Tuesday, Nov. 17, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Staff at Kendall Green can cast their ballots at Ely Center or the front lobbies of the Model Secondary School for the Deaf or Kendall Demonstration Elementary School. At the Northwest Campus, staff can vote in the basement of Memorial Hall.

Write-in candidates for all positions are welcome, said outgoing SAC Chair Beth Singer.

The four nominees and their position statements are:

- **Paul Blakely**, administrative assistant, Student Life Office. (No statement provided.)

- **Rosa Mann**, transfer credit specialist, Admissions Office (incumbent). "My reasons for running again as an SAC representative is because I would like to follow up on important issues affecting staff that have not been resolved during my two-year term. Therefore, I feel with the continued support from the campus community and my previous experience, it would greatly benefit all staff to re-elect me. The power is in the vote!"

- **Susan Martin**, nurse practitioner, Student Health Service. "I would like to serve on the SAC. I think it would be a great experience to be able to represent the staff in the changing environment at Gallaudet."

- **Vanessa Slade**, administrative secretary, Career Center. (No statement provided.)

In addition to Singer, candidates who are finishing their terms are Mary Ann Kinsella-Meier from the Northwest Campus, and Rosa Mann, Eloise Molock-Casey, and Agnes Muse from Kendall Green.

Correction

At the Oct. 26 meeting of the University Faculty, Associate Professor Frances Parsons asked the faculty to consider changing to English Signs rather than straight ASL, not Pidgin Signed English as reported in the Nov. 2 issue of *On the Green*.



Although Halloween is past, it's worth a backward glance to note the supernatural beings who visited Kendall Green. LEFT: Sprites from the CDC prowl the campus for treats. RIGHT: Bewitching staff members from the Personnel Office cast a spell.



University Librarian John Day and Library staff congratulate Judy Cox, administrative support librarian, on receiving her 20-year service award Oct. 27.

Announcements

Participation by the MSSD Leadership Class in the 12th annual Project Harvest, an effort to see that families in need throughout the metropolitan area have a memorable feast this Thanksgiving, is now underway. The policy of the project is to raise funds so that baskets with fresh turkey or ham, fresh vegetables, and a variety of food staples can be prepared and distributed by social workers from schools and public service agencies. The class goal is to beat the 1991 total of \$525. To contribute, send money or checks payable to Project Harvest, MSSD, Box 145.

Faculty and staff currently have the option of participating in the Flexible Premium Plan, a benefit that may result in increased net pay, by electing to pay health and dental insurance premiums with before tax dollars. This reduces gross biweekly salary by the amount equal to these premiums, and federal, state, and social security taxes are computed on the reduced gross income. Employees who itemize income tax deductions and claim these health and dental premiums as part of their medical expenses will not benefit from the plan. Employees who are currently in the plan must re-enroll by Dec. 31. For more information, call the Accounting Office at x6295 or x5687.

The Metro Washington Association of the Deaf-Blind is hosting its first holiday bazaar and annual Thanksgiving potluck dinner on Sat., Nov. 21, in the Ely Center Multipurpose Room. The bazaar

begins at 5 p.m., and features handicrafts, needlework, baked goods, ornaments, and other items for sale. The dinner begins at 6:30 p.m. in the same location. Participants are asked to bring a dish or dessert to share. To contribute items or help with the bazaar, call Laura Engler at (301) 774-7415. To RSVP for the dinner, call Steven Frank, x5215 or (301) 869-6761.

The third edition of the *International Directory of Periodicals Related to Deafness*, a listing of more than 500 domestic and international magazines, journals, and newspapers, is now available. The Gallaudet Bookstore is accepting orders for the directory, which costs \$10 plus \$3 for shipping and handling. For more information, call Steven Frank, x5215, or Susan Davis, x5684.

The Athletics Department requests that the Gallaudet community mark its calendars early in scheduling events for next fall by noting that the homecoming game against Methodist College of Fayetteville, N.C., has been slated for Oct. 23.

Classified Ads

Classified ads are printed free for Gallaudet faculty and staff. Ads must be submitted in writing to *On the Green*, MSSD, Room G-37, or E-mail LMMCCONNELL. Off-campus phone numbers must include an area code and whether the number is voice or TDD. Ads may be run two weeks if requested and if space permits. Ads received Nov. 16-25 will be published Dec. 7. Because of the Thanksgiving holiday, *On the Green* will not be published Nov. 30.

FOUND: Plain gold wedding ring, identify name and date inside to claim. Call Deb Krichbaum, x5480 or E-mail DAKRICHBAUM.

FOR SALE: Complete IBM PS/1 system w/3 1/2-in. drive and mono monitor, internal modem and software, rarely used, \$350. Call (301) 595-5899 (TDD) or x3312 (TDD).

FOR SALE: '72 VW Superbeetle, runs exc., custom cloth interior, no rust, new paint, many new parts, \$2,950/nego. Call Mark, (301) 490-2819 or E-mail IIMMACE.

FOR RENT: Sublet private BR near Gallaudet Dec. 28-Jan. 24, incl. furn., color TV w/decoder, washing machine. Call John, x3113 (TDD) or E-mail IJMULHOLLAN.

FOR SALE: Microwave, rarely used, good cond., \$80/BO. Call John, x3113 (TDD) or E-mail IJMULHOLLAN.